# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:158
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
INCREASE IN PDS PRICES
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has decided to reduce the per capita allocation and increase the price of foodgrains distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS) to various categories of beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, category-wise;

(c) whether the Government has also decided to cut down the allocation made to the States under PDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(e) the impact of the said move on welfare schemes being run by the Government?

## Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)&(d): No, Sir. Per capita allocation under TPDS has not been reduced, only total allocation for APL category has been reduced/rationalized.

Keeping in view the reduced stocks of wheat in the Central Pool, the allocation of wheat for Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) & Above Poverty Line (APL) category has been rationalized to each State`s average offtake for the last 3 years or the last year`s offtake, whichever was lower. A 25% cut on this was imposed in respect of rice consuming States. However, there has been no change in the overall allocation/entitlements for BPL and AAY categories.

Thereafter, in view of the improved stock position and to keep prices of wheat in the open market under check, the Department of Food & Public Distribution has released about one lakh tonnes of wheat under APL category for all the States/UTs for the months of September, 2006 to July, 2007.

Similarly, keeping in view the stocks of rice in the central pool, the allocation of rice for APL category under the TPDS has been rationalized, from April, 2007, on the basis of each State`s maximum monthly offtake for the last three years. This decision has also been made uniformly applicable to all State/UTs.

However, keeping in view the requests received from the North Eastern States & Sikkim, the Central Government has enhanced w.e.f. July, 2007, the allocation of rice for the APL category to 1.5 times of their existing allocation.

(e): There is no impact of the above decisions for other foodgrain based schemes.